

In the Claims

Please replace Claim 36, with the following rewritten claim:

36. An integral disposable elasticized absorbent article having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, comprising:
- (a) a top sheet, a backsheet, a waist portion consisting of a front waist portion and a back waist portion, a crotch portion and a pair of spaced apart leg openings;
 - (b) an absorbent layer having a longitudinal axis and a horizontal axis disposed between said top sheet and said backsheet, said absorbent layer being defined by two opposed spaced apart longitudinal sides each having a proximal end and a distal end and a middle portion, and opposed spaced apart proximal and distal lateral sides;
 - (c) means for fastening said absorbent article around the waist portion of a wearer of the absorbent article; and
 - (d) two arched-shaped elasticized barrier layers; a first generally concave elasticized barrier layer having one end attached between the middle portion and distal end of one of said longitudinal sides and a second end attached between the middle portion and distal end of the other one of said longitudinal side, thereby forming a first retaining enclosure between said first barrier layer and said topsheet; and a second generally convex elasticized barrier layer having one end attached between the middle portion and proximal end of one of said longitudinal sides and the other end attached between the middle portion and distal end of the other one of said longitudinal sides thereby forming a second retaining enclosure between said second barrier layer and said topsheet, and wherein said first and second arched-shaped elasticized barrier layers intersect each other to form a double barrier layer on said top sheet of said absorbent article.

Version with markings to show changes made

In the Claims

Claim 36 has been amended as follows:

36. An integral disposable elasticized absorbent article having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, comprising:
- (a) a top sheet, a backsheet, a waist portion consisting of a front waist portion and a back waist portion, a crotch portion and a pair of spaced apart leg openings;
 - (b) an absorbent layer having a longitudinal axis and a horizontal axis disposed between said top sheet and said backsheet, said absorbent layer being defined by two opposed spaced apart longitudinal sides each having a proximal end and a distal end and a middle portion, and opposed spaced apart proximal and distal lateral sides;
 - (c) means for fastening said absorbent article around the waist portion of a wearer of the absorbent article; and
 - (d) two arched-shaped elasticized barrier layers, ^{including} a first generally concave elasticized barrier layer having one end attached between the middle portion and distal end of one of said longitudinal sides and a second end attached between the middle portion and distal end of the other one of said longitudinal side, thereby forming a first retaining enclosure between said first barrier layer and said topsheet; and a second generally convex elasticized barrier layer having one end attached between the middle portion and proximal end of one of said longitudinal sides and the other end attached between the middle portion and distal end of the other one of said longitudinal sides thereby forming a second retaining enclosure between said second barrier layer and said topsheet, and wherein said first and second arched-shaped elasticized barrier layers intersect each other to form a double barrier layer on said top sheet of said absorbent article.